

> Dear Members of the Energy and Technology Committee,

>

>

> I am submitting this testimony regarding Proposed S.B. No. 9, an Act Concerning Connecticut's Energy Future. I ask for your support of its new RPS standards and protections of the Green Bank and CEEF Funds, but am opposed to the elimination of net metering.

>

> I support the RPS targets of 40% by 2030 which are essential but I believe we should be targeting a 45 or 50% target for emissions reductions to meet the Governors Council recommendations for combating climate change. Compliance to higher standards will reduce our air pollution toxins. As you know, Connecticut's air quality is one of the worst in the entire country. Our citizen's health and associated costs depend on reductions in sulfur dioxide, mercury and nitrogen oxides. Furthermore higher RPS standards are good for Connecticut's economic health. Our renewable energy industry provides close to 37,000 green technology jobs to our workforce while driving down renewable costs.

>

> Regarding SB-9's proposed elimination of net metering, I urge you to reject those provisions. Rooftop solar allows consumers to reduce their energy use and costs. I support the payment of infrastructure fees for the support of our utilities grids but reject the requirement that consumers must sell all the power they generate back to the utility. Additionally SB-9 eliminates the ability for consumers to be able to store their own energy when battery technology progresses. This is an infringement on our consumer rights, and our ability to consume clean healthy electricity. Essentially, you will be killing rooftop solar at a time when we citizens are recognizing the need and support renewable energy. This is a backward step that favors corporate utilities at the expense of your constituents.

>

> I support SB-9's provisions to eliminate legislative raiding of the Green Bank and CEEF Funds and urge you to restore them. By taking these funds, you have essentially put a hidden tax on our utility bills and eliminated the leverage the Green Bank provides for clean low cost renewable energy and jobs.

>

> We are now seeing the effects and costs of climate change on our state and around the world. I urge you to do the right thing for the families and future of Connecticut and make SB-9 a win for our citizens.

>

> Respectfully submitted,

> Stephanie D'Alton Barrett

Riverside, CT

2036373343

>

> Stephaniebarretttrtm@gmail.com